

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Original): A method of improving the tissue quality of an animal, comprising feeding the animal a diet comprising at least 150 ppm mixed tocotrienols.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 2 wherein the tissue is meat and the quality of the meat is measured by criteria selected from the group consisting of pH, improved color value, improved oxidative stability, and reduced purge.

Claims 3-11 (Cancelled).

Claim 12 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the animal is a ruminant.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 12 wherein the animal is cattle.

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the diet comprising at least 150 ppm mixed tocotrienols comprises a cereal grain crop genetically modified to have elevated mixed tocotrienol levels.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 14 wherein the cereal grain crop is corn.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the diet comprising at least 150 ppm mixed tocotrienols comprises oil from a plant that has been genetically modified to have elevated mixed tocotrienol levels.

Claims 17-19 (Cancelled).

Claim 20 (Original): A method of improving the tissue quality of an animal, comprising feeding the animal a diet comprising 50 ppm to 500 ppm mixed tocotrienols.

Claim 21 (Original): The method of claim 20 wherein the tissue is meat and the quality of the meat is measured by criteria selected from the group consisting of increased pH, improved color value, improved oxidative stability and reduced purge.

Claims 22-26 (Cancelled).

Claim 27 (Original): The method of claim 20 wherein the diet comprising 50 ppm to 500 ppm mixed tocotrienols comprises a cereal grain crop genetically modified to have elevated mixed tocotrienol levels.

Claim 28 (Original): The method of claim 27 wherein the cereal grain crop is corn.

Claim 29 (Original): The method of claim 20 wherein the diet comprising 50 ppm to 500 ppm mixed tocotrienols comprises an oil from a plant that has been genetically modified to have elevated mixed tocotrienol levels.

Claims 30-32 (Cancelled).